

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Parties to D.T.E. 98-57 Phase IV

FROM: Jesse S. Reyes, Hearing Officer

RE: Request for Reply Comments by Joint Petitioners

DATE: January 28, 2002

On December 21, 2001, Verizon New England, Inc. d/b/a/ Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon"), Sprint Communications Company, L.P. ("Sprint"), and Covad Communications Company ("Covad") (collectively, "Joint Petitioners") filed a <u>Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement Agreement</u> concerning collocation power issues and revising Verizon's collocation tariff, M.D.T.E. No. 17, under review in D.T.E 98-57 Phase IV.

On December 27, 2002, the hearing officer extended the comment period and directed all parties who wished to submit comments to do so by January 9, 2002. On January 9, 2002, WorldCom, Inc. ("WorldCom") filed its comments in partial opposition. Letter of WorldCom to Mary L. Cotrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, January 9, 2002 ("Worldcom Comments").

WorldCom opposes the tariff provisions for "scheduled" and "nonscheduled"

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On January 7, 2002, the hearing officer requested that the Joint Petitioners address two specific provisions in the proposed tariff regarding the fund to which certain penalty proceeds would be paid and the appropriate dispute resolution process. The Joint Petitioners filed further comments on these issues on January 18, 2002.

attestations in sections 2.3.5F and 2.3.5E.3.g. (WorldCom Comments at 1-2). WorldCom proposes that all references to attestations be stricken. (Id. at 2). WorldCom further opposes the tariff provision regarding late augments due to the "fault of the Telephone Company" in section 2.3.4E.6. (Id. at 2-3). WorldCom proposes that this provision should depend instead upon a determination of "fault of the CLEC." (Id. at 3).

The hearing officer requests that the Joint Petitioners provide reply comments regarding WorldCom's partial opposition to the joint petition. The hearing officer directs the Joint Petitioners to file reply comments by the close of business on **February 8, 2002**.

Please contact Jesse S. Reyes at (617) 305-3735 should you have any questions.

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